

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8 are pending in this application. By this amendment, Claims 1, 3, 4 and 5 are amended; and no claims are canceled or added herewith. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph; and Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

With respect to the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs, Claims 1, 3, 4 and 5 are amended by the present amendment. Specifically, Claims 1, 3, 4 and 5 are amended to similarly recite plural plate reactant-gas supplying separators, with a separator being provided between respective opposed unit cells of the plurality of unit cells. Further, each separator has, in its one surface that contacts an adjacent fuel electrode of a unit cell, fuel-gas supplying passages for supplying fuel gas to the fuel electrode, and has, in its opposite surface that contacts an adjacent oxidizer electrode of another unit cell, oxidizer-gas supplying passages for supplying oxidizer gas to the oxidizer electrode. For example, as shown in Fig. 1, a separator 8 is provided between each of the unit cells 4. The basic unit 02 includes the upper most separator 8 and the second unit cell 4. The upper most separator 8 has, in its surface that contacts the adjacent fuel electrode 2 of the unit cell 4, fuel-gas supplying passages 22 for supplying fuel gas to the fuel electrode 2. In the example of Fig. 1, the uppermost separator 8 has, in its opposite surface that contacts an adjacent oxidizer electrode 3 of another unit cell (the first unit cell 4 shown in Fig. 1), oxidizer-gas supplying passages 49 for supplying oxidizer gas to the oxidizer electrode.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112 first and second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Consequently, for the reasons discussed in detail above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

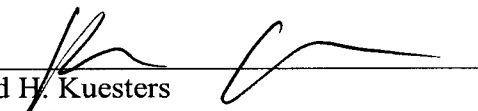
Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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